

**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
parks and recreation**

A-1

06/26/2012

**Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes**

Tuesday, May 22, 2012
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Council Chambers
401 N. Morton St.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carter at 4:00 p.m.

Board Present: John Carter, Les Coyne, Jane St. John

Board Absent: Joe Hoffmann

Staff Present: Mick Renneisen, Judy Seigle, JD Boruff, Leslie Brinson, Bill Ream, Lee Huss, Karen Serfling, Becky Barrick-Higgins, Kim Ecenbarger, Lindsay Buuck, Paula McDevitt, Bev Johnson, Elizabeth Tompkins, Brenda McGlothlin, Dave Williams, Robin Hobson, Marcia Veldman, Ellen Campbell, John Turnbull, Steve Cotter, Dee Tuttle

Interns: Ashley Forsberg, Kelly McGlothlin

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A-1. Approval of Minutes of April 24, 2012 Meeting
- A-2. Approval of Claims Submitted April 25 – May 21, 2012
- A-3. Approval of Non-Reverting Budget Amendments
- A-4. Review of Business Report

Ms. St. John made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Mr. Coyne seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPEARANCES

B-1. Public Comment Period

Mr. Carter reminded the public that Bryan and Mills Pools open this weekend. Be safe, have fun and have a good summer!

Mr. Coyne welcomed the new members of the Farmers' Market Advisory Council.

Mr. Renneisen stated that Switchyard conceptual plan options can be viewed at switchyardpark.org. Members of the public can still make comments at that site. The consultants will be meeting with the technical review committee and the steering committee this week. For the next few months, until September, the consultants will be obtaining permits and researching what kind of steps will be needed for remediation. They will make their final report to the Board in September. While there is no money identified yet for this project, it can begin once funding is secured.

B-2. Bravo Award – Precious McMillon

Ms. Tompkins addressed the Board and stated that the May Bravo Award is being presented to Precious McMillon for her volunteer time with the Leonard Springs Nature Day program. Ms. McMillon just completed her sophomore year in Spanish studies at Indiana University and plans to continue her education with a Doctorate in Optometry. She is very active in the community and volunteers as the treasurer of 21st Century Scholar Corps and regularly volunteers at Habitat for Humanity ReStore and the Crisis Pregnancy Center. She volunteered with Leonard Springs Nature Days as a way to

improve her leadership skills and increase her knowledge about nature. During the program she served as a group leader of 6th grade students. After volunteering for the first program in the spring, she immediately signed up for the remainder of the dates and volunteered at all five program dates for a total of 25 hours. The staff appreciates her commitment and involvement in the community and with the Department.

Ms. McMillon addressed the Board and stated that she enjoyed herself with the Leonard Springs Nature Day Program and it was fun to do! She stated she was happy to learn so much about nature, because her coursework is so science heavy. It was a great opportunity.

B-3. Parks Partner – None for this Month

B-4. Staff Introductions – Mean Betz, Ashley Forsberg, Kelly McGlothlin – Interns

Ms. Forsberg introduced herself to the Board and stated that she is the Health and Wellness Intern with the Department. She is currently pursuing a BS degree in Kinesiology with the Fitness Specialist major from Indiana University. Her degree will be completed in May 2013. Her internship will be spent learning how to do fitness assessments, interpretation, and prescription, helping with the G.O.A.L. Program assessments, working community events, as well as participating in practicums at TLRC and the Monroe County YMCA. Her specific area of interest is directed at childhood development and the rise in childhood obesity. In addition to her formal education at IU, she has gained a wealth of knowledge and valuable experience as a Summer Youth Sports Camp Counselor at the YMCA.

Kelly McGlothlin introduced herself to the Board and stated that she is interning within the recreation division this summer. She has worked for the Department in a part-time capacity for seven years with the sports division at Bryan Park Pool, Twin Lakes Sports Park, and Frank Southern Ice Arena. She is excited to see the recreation side of the Department. Her internship supervisor is Leslie Brinson and she will work closely with Ms. Brinson at the Banneker Center helping with various programs throughout the summer. She will also be working with the community events division and helping at several events each month. In addition, she will help with the marketing area and learning more about the parks foundation. Ms. McGlothlin will graduate in August from Indiana University School of HPER with a BS in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Studies and a concentration in Parks and Recreation Management.

B-5. Staff Recognition – Karen Serfling

Ms. Brinson addressed the Board and recognized Ms. Serfling for her tenure with the Department. She will be retiring in mid-July. As the Program Specialist at the Banneker Center and the Director of the Family Resource Center (FRC) prior to that, her knowledge of preschoolers and their parents is very impressive. She has brought a research and results based background to the programming efforts with the Department. Ms. Brinson has even looked to Ms. Serfling for her help with raising her own children! Ms. Serfling has introduced over 1,200 preschoolers to sports such as soccer, basketball and T-ball; she has greeted, talked to and met over 12,000 parents through the preschool programs and the FRC; she's helped teach 68 children how to ride their bikes through the learn to ride program; she helped create the "born learning" on the Clear Creek Trail; she has also trained many parents and childcare providers with "Touch Points" training. The children of Bloomington and the staff of Department have been fortunate to have Ms. Serfling in their lives.

Ms. Serfling addressed the Board and stated that this has been a fabulous department to work for and she's been able to do a job that she loves. She has felt so supported and so much a part of a team here. She is looking forward to her time in North Carolina on the beach!

C. OTHER BUSINESS

C-1. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Downtown Bloomington Inc. for the 4th of July Parade

Mr. Ream addressed the Board seeking approval of the partnership agreement with Downtown Bloomington Inc. for the 4th of the July Parade. He stated that this is the sixth year for this partnership. The goal is to combine resources from the Department and DBI to provide 4th of July festivities for the Bloomington community, including a parade and a performance by the Bloomington Community Band. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, July 4, 2012 from 9-11:30am. This year's theme is "Back to Bloomington – Show us your B-Town Roots!" This year's parade route is the same as last

year and starts at 7th Street and Indiana Avenue, heads west on 7th Street, turns right (north) on Walnut Ave, then turns left (west) on 8th Street, then turns left (south) on College Ave. It will head down College Ave. and turn left (east) on Kirkwood Ave. past the courthouse and end at Sample Gates.

Ms. St. John made a motion to approve the partnership agreement with Downtown Bloomington Inc. for the 4th of July Parade. Mr. Coyne seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

C-2. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Community Orchard

Mr. Huss addressed the Board seeking approval of the partnership agreement with the Community Orchard. He stated that for the past two years, the Department and volunteers with the Bloomington Community Orchard have worked together to create a public orchard located at Winslow Woods Park. With the leadership skills of Ms. Amy Countryman, the Community Orchard has obtained several grants and donations for this community project. The Parks and Recreation Department provided \$2,000 in start up funds. Numerous work days, educational workshops and two dry summers later, the orchard is growing strong with hopes for a fall crop of fruit. The Bloomington Community Orchard is now an Indiana non-profit organization and this partnership agreement is intended to continue that collaboration between the two parties.

Ms. Countryman addressed the Board and stated that this project has happened because of a lot of people. She will be stepping down from the Board of Directors soon as she is expecting her second child this summer. The Community Orchard has had frequent work days, involved thousands of volunteers, and raised close to \$30,000 in grant money. They also received news recently that their 501(c)3 non-profit status through the IRS was just approved. Their organization is now ready to stand on its own. She introduced fellow Board members: Tara Darcy-Hall, Josh David, and Sarah Ryterband.

Ms. St. John made a motion to approve the partnership agreement with the Bloomington Community Orchard. Mr. Coyne seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

C-3. Review/Approval of Appointments to Tree Commission

Mr. Huss addressed the Board seeking approval of the re-appointment of Ms. Laurel Cornell to the Tree Commission. He stated that Ms. Cornell has been a member of the Bloomington Tree Commission for six years, the past three as Chair. Mr. Huss presented Ms. Cornell with a cutting board that was made from the Urban Woodwaste Program.

Ms. St. John made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Ms. Cornell to the Tree Commission. Mr. Coyne seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

D. REPORTS

D-1. Recreation Division – FMAC Annual Report/Bark for Your Park Contest

Mr. Bruce McAllister addressed the Board and provided them with an update from the 2011 Farmers' Market season. He stated that attendance increased by 17% from the 2010 season to 2011. Vendors have increased by 6% which peaked in 2009. There was a significant increase in revenue from the Prepared Food Vendors because additional vendors were added. The advisory council anticipates meeting the 95% cost recovery goal established by the Board due to the increased Prepared Food Vendors revenue, charging groups for the use of "Information Alley", Friends of the Farmers' Market revenue, and revenue from ATM usage. He stated that reworking the traffic patterns during the opening and closing of the Market has been quite successful. The FMAC is currently looking to re-work the logo. They are also trying to balance the community supported agriculture share distribution.

Ms. Higgins addressed the Board and encouraged the Board and public to vote in the "Bark for Your Park" contest. This contest, sponsored by PetSafe, will award the winner \$100,000 to go toward building a dog park. The department currently has the land, the plans, and with additional funding, will be able to build the park. People can vote twice a day every day; once through the PetSafe.net web site and once through Facebook. Voting takes place until June 13.

D-2. Operations Division – Ferguson Dog Park Update/SPEA Urban Forestry Management Case Study

Mr. Boruff addressed the Board and provided them with an update on the Ferguson Dog Park. He stated that the City Utilities will soon be draining Griffy reservoir and making repairs to the dam. As part of this project, they will close the unofficial “dog park” at the dam. Staff is recommending that immediate portions of the Ferguson Dog Park be completed to meet the needs of those patrons that utilize the Griffy dam for their dogs. The three portions of the project that staff is proposing construction of are site drainage, crushed stone drive entrance and parking lot, and fencing of a three acre area. Costs associated with this phase of the construction total \$79,000. Future plans for a total build-out of the facility will be finalized after funding is secured and after further public input. The finished park will include 2-three acre areas, 2-one acre areas, a port-a-john or pit type toilet, and may include minimal parking lot lighting. There will be no lighting at this time. The Bean Blossom Watershed group will provide a grant of \$29,000 for bioswales, drainage, and berm. Additional funds totaling \$50,000 has also been received from the Ferguson family donation.

Mr. Huss addressed the Board and stated that Dr. Burney Fischer and his IU SPEA class in E522 Urban Forest Management have performed several case studies including the core downtown area. Mr. Huss has been actively involved with this class and he presented three graduate level posters that reflect the surveys completed by the students. There are approximately 12 linear miles of roads and the team looked at 775 trees in that area and overall the condition was good. He presented the hard copy report to the Board.

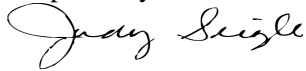
D-3. Sports Division – No Report

D-4. Administration Division – No Report

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judy Seigle, Secretary Board of Park Commissioners